

Antwerp Awaits 'Port Opened' Signal

NOW the scene of operations in Western Europe is due to change. There will be no delay in restoring activity to Antwerp's docks and quays. They will be operating at capacity almost as soon as the 'Port opened' signal is given."

ALLIES BUILD UP FOR BIGGEST PUSH OF ALL

SPECIALISED naval units and highly skilled formations of the Royal Engineers have been busy at Antwerp preparing for the time when the great Belgian port is opened to Allied shipping.

That may come at any hour now. Once the miles of docks and quays at Antwerp are put to work, the Allies will have a supply of supplies to be utilised in their main line of operations. The Allies will be able to go ahead with his offensive on the largest possible scale.

Present Antwerp is the greatest Allied victory since the success of the D-Day landings. It solves in one masterly stroke a problem which has grown increasingly acute as the Allies advance. The supply stretched more and more from Cherbourg and pre-fabricated harbours.

In the comparative lull of recent weeks, during which the Allies have been preparing for a grand assault, General Eisenhower has built up in Antwerp a tremendous strength of reserves of war material.

NOT until Antwerp's splendid facilities for landing and unloading of supplies and the continuous streams of supplies to the battle front were assured could the Allies risk expending the reserves material already assembled there. For it was obvious that the threatened lines of communication from Germany could handle the supplies necessary for an all-out offensive such as Eisenhower, Montgomery and Bradley have planned.

To the German High Command the availability of Antwerp is the card which they have played to face. They can do nothing about it, but they are confident that Antwerp free, the Allies have sufficient strength to punch through the hard crust of their defensive system.

WAITING THE SIGNAL. But they also realised that to carry such a punch through the logical and strategic conclusion was to no possible extent to the port facilities of Antwerp were available.

Hence the fanatical resistance of the formations deliberately sacrificed by the Germans in their aim to hold as long as possible the industrial fortresses dominating the Scheldt channels. Now the scene of operations in Western Europe is due to change. There will be no delay in restoring activity to Antwerp's docks and quays. They will be operating at capacity almost as soon as the 'port opened' signal is given.

PRESIDENT ROOSEVELT's warning that he would not be in Antwerp this winter, that he will be given no rest, was so no surprise to those who knew the staggering Allied build-up.

The German High Command with the lessons of Gen. St. Lo and Falaise still bitterly ringing in their mind, will have no illusions about the gravity of this warning.

They know that behind the defensive lines there are no more offensive cushions they can fall back on. They know the fallacy of Hitler's, their spokesmen's, claim to have established their lines and to have created a breathing space in which to recover.

Communications in the bombarded frontier zone leading to the Rhine grow worse and worse.

ADVERTISERS' ANNOUNCEMENTS

DURAFLEX

They fit beautifully

Yes, madam, DURAFLEX comfort-margin shoes are not merely well fitting shoes, they are TRULY COMFORT BUILT.

Pure and is made for illustrated foot and name of agent retailer.

DURAFLEX • GROVENA WORKS • LEICESTER

SEE WHERE YOU ARE WITH

ATLAS

TRAMPS

ADVERTISERS OF THORN ELECTRICAL INDUSTRIES LTD.

105/109 JUDD STREET, LONDON, W.C.1

By Our Diplomatic Correspondent

Cologne, reeling under blow after blow, is a port.

Morale immediately behind the German lines must be deteriorating. Night and day the skies are dominated by fleets of Allied bombers. One by one the great Rhine basins are being shelled. The railways torn up, supply centres wrecked.

Enemy strategy has no reply, no counter. The German High Command in this respect is barren of ideas. Its conception of the war does not change. And surprises spring on them by the thousands.

More surprises are due. Anglo-American tanks and infantry will soon be exposed to the world the full results of their activity and research.

ALLIED superiority in terms of supply, weapons and the ability to use them has yet to be demonstrated in overwhelming degree.

Mr. Churchill, ever cautious, has told us that the war in Europe may go on till Easter or early summer. But he implies no caution with the statement that high military authority has not been reached yet before then.

Factors such as weather, effect of the air war, and the power of Germany to offer organized resistance on a formidable scale utterly broken.

By that I do not mean that he will by then have forced the Hun to unconditional surrender. But I do mean that the last, great battle in the West will have been fought and won, and the power of Germany to offer organized resistance on a formidable scale utterly broken.

QUESTIONED as to his position, intention of joining the Conservative Party, Mr. Horne-Belisha (Ind. Devotion) stated, at a public meeting in his constituency yesterday, that he was opposed to the Socialist policy.

He wanted to see a strong Britain with a two-party system. He did not want to see a Socialist Government, he said, which would have belonged to both Conservative and Liberal parties, and which would have been a disaster.

He was convicted of offering utility clothing and footwear at prices above the maximum.

Clothes Too Dear

£240

Working (Survey) magistrates yesterday imposed a fine of £240 on a man who had sold 240 pairs of shoes at 240 pence each.

He was convicted of offering utility clothing and footwear at prices above the maximum.

He was convicted of offering utility clothing and footwear at prices above the maximum.

He was convicted of offering utility clothing and footwear at prices above the maximum.

He was convicted of offering utility clothing and footwear at prices above the maximum.

He was convicted of offering utility clothing and footwear at prices above the maximum.

He was convicted of offering utility clothing and footwear at prices above the maximum.

He was convicted of offering utility clothing and footwear at prices above the maximum.

He was convicted of offering utility clothing and footwear at prices above the maximum.

Rector's Ban: Bishop Acts

PARISHIONERS of Scotch-with-Birmingham and Thorne, Parva were visited yesterday by the Archbishop of Norfolk, the Archbishop of York, and the Archbishop of Canterbury, to investigate the ban on the use of the Church for what drives and dances, imposed by the Rector, the Rev. David Warburton.

A petition had been sent to the Bishop asking him to remove the ban, and the Archbishop spent twelve hours in the parish visiting houses and interviewing the leaders of the parish social committee, who in two years have raised £700 for charities—£500 from what drives and dances.

The Archbishop also visited members of the church council and at the rectory was in conference with the Rector for some time.

An official of the committee was interviewed by the Archbishop.

When questioned about dances, the Rector said he did not allow them because they led to a "playwright" in this new excuse the Rector is trying to confuse the local people.

Another committee official said: "There may have been boys brought in by soldiers who supported our dances. But that was a long time ago. It is disgraceful that the Rector should try to penalise our charitable efforts for this kind of thing."

When arrested, he was engaged in a box on her own family, pretending she was about to be married, having the banns called at church and inviting her relatives to the wedding.

The Bench felt that if she would co-operate with the police in prison to help her, she could become a useful citizen instead of a danger to the public.

"We have been told that you have ambitions to be a playwright," he continued. "I see no reason why you should not have a bright future."

"You have got certain mental qualities which, properly directed, could be the foundation of a great career, because there is a vast public prepared to spend its time reading stories and seeing films of the kind of matter you seem naturally gifted to supply."

CHILD ROAD VICTIMS

More than a quarter of the total accidents on the roads of Britain during September were accidents to children. Deaths among child cyclists and child pedestrians increased from 14 in the last week of August to 15 in the last week of September.

BOYS' MANNERS WORSE THAN DOGS'

BELIEVING that the Boys' Club movement can save young men from drifting into idleness—and worse—a great new effort is to be made to provide them with leaders who have been tried and found wanting in the fires of war.

Just how urgent is the need is shown by the declaration of Mr. G. B. Bradley, Public Relations Officer of the National Association of Boys' Clubs, who said yesterday:

"Cases of delinquency among boys outside club organisation are evident. In an investigation of three Kent harvest camps, to which boys were sent by local labour exchanges, I found that 15 of the 16 to 17 age group, in a pretty good average, were not even the common decencies of a house-trained dog."

"They were just staggering. I talked to a sergeant of the Eighth Army who was there, and he said their language was dreadful."

"The boys would not work and were pining. In contrast, boys from the club were 100 per cent. more reliable and their behaviour was exemplary. They saved the camp."

The vital need of action was shown by the Duke of Devonshire, on the eve of his departure for Australia. Launching a £200,000 fund to provide extra leaders for his Royal Highness's Boys' Clubs, he said:

"Boys need leadership. I have seen many occasions that given leadership, even the most unpromising boys can rise to great heights. There is leadership of superb quality among the junior officers and N.C.O.s of the Armed Forces."

A send-off to the fund has been given by a Wincanton branch of the R.A.F. who has donated £1,000. There are 1,012 boys' clubs with 166,700 members between 14 and 18.

SUNNY ITALY!

Units of the Eighth Army battle through flood—'nd mud like this caused by the torrential rains.



Girl Who Hoaxed Nurses Is Jailed

'OUGHT TO BE A PLAYWRIGHT'

CHAIRMAN

AUTHORESS of an astounding hospital hoax, which induced a sister to become "engaged" to a non-existent air officer, and in which fake telephone calls played a big part, Jean Ridge, 18-years-old Denton (Lanes) girl, was at Salford yesterday sentenced to twelve months' imprisonment.

She was found guilty of obtaining £3, a gold ring and a fountain pen from a sister and £11 from the hospital telephonist while posing as the confidential secretary of the mythical R.A.F. officer's mother, sent to Salford to prevent her marriage.

The medical record showed that the girl needed compulsory psychiatric treatment. Det-Inspector Brown said the girl could give the police this elaborate hoax was that she got a "cut" of fooling people.

When arrested, she was engaged in a box on her own family, pretending she was about to be married, having the banns called at church and inviting her relatives to the wedding.

The Bench felt that if she would co-operate with the police in prison to help her, she could become a useful citizen instead of a danger to the public.

"We have been told that you have ambitions to be a playwright," he continued. "I see no reason why you should not have a bright future."

"You have got certain mental qualities which, properly directed, could be the foundation of a great career, because there is a vast public prepared to spend its time reading stories and seeing films of the kind of matter you seem naturally gifted to supply."

CHILD ROAD VICTIMS

More than a quarter of the total accidents on the roads of Britain during September were accidents to children. Deaths among child cyclists and child pedestrians increased from 14 in the last week of August to 15 in the last week of September.

BOYS' MANNERS WORSE THAN DOGS'

BELIEVING that the Boys' Club movement can save young men from drifting into idleness—and worse—a great new effort is to be made to provide them with leaders who have been tried and found wanting in the fires of war.

Just how urgent is the need is shown by the declaration of Mr. G. B. Bradley, Public Relations Officer of the National Association of Boys' Clubs, who said yesterday:

"Cases of delinquency among boys outside club organisation are evident. In an investigation of three Kent harvest camps, to which boys were sent by local labour exchanges, I found that 15 of the 16 to 17 age group, in a pretty good average, were not even the common decencies of a house-trained dog."

"They were just staggering. I talked to a sergeant of the Eighth Army who was there, and he said their language was dreadful."

"The boys would not work and were pining. In contrast, boys from the club were 100 per cent. more reliable and their behaviour was exemplary. They saved the camp."

The vital need of action was shown by the Duke of Devonshire, on the eve of his departure for Australia. Launching a £200,000 fund to provide extra leaders for his Royal Highness's Boys' Clubs, he said:

"Boys need leadership. I have seen many occasions that given leadership, even the most unpromising boys can rise to great heights. There is leadership of superb quality among the junior officers and N.C.O.s of the Armed Forces."

A send-off to the fund has been given by a Wincanton branch of the R.A.F. who has donated £1,000. There are 1,012 boys' clubs with 166,700 members between 14 and 18.

ENEMY PLANNING NEW SECRET WEAPONS, BUT

R A F has More Surprises For Huns: Sinclair

"THE war is going well, but the German beast is desperate. The last few rounds of the war call for a crescendo of effort from us," Sir Archibald Sinclair, Secretary for Air, said at Hull yesterday.

This is no time to relax. Sir Archibald added. It is the time for supreme concentration on the task of finishing off the war.

The brains of Germany's brilliant scientists are concentrated on the invention of new weapons and the improvement of old weapons.

We are watching them closely, and they won't take us by surprise. We have taken them.

We have given them quite a lot of surprises in the air, too, and there will be more to come. So we must expect the Germans in their turn to produce new weapons which will be militarily less futile than the flying bomb.

The whole operational strength of the long-range bomber force of the Luftwaffe is now only a quarter of what it was in June, 1940.

Bomber Command, on the other hand, can now drop nearly 20 times the tonnage of bombs in June, 1940, and in addition, the United States Army Air Corps, which is in Italy and now drops much as much as Bomber Command.

100,000 TONS

In the last six weeks Bomber Command dropped as big a tonnage of bombs as it dropped in all the previous months of the war put together. In October, Bomber Command dropped 100,000 tons of bombs, working from this country, have dropped 100,000 tons.

This is far greater than any other weight of bombs, including the tonnage of the Flying Bombs, which has dropped in this country in the whole war.

Bomber Command has dropped in 24 hours more than twice the tonnage of bombs as it has dropped in any other 24 hours of the war. A clear proof of the large margin by which the Allied air forces have achieved.

The German air force has been ground for complicity. When I give my wife an extra £1 or £2 she leaves me to my own devices.

And Wives

What a chump, he said. "I am to have married you."

I am the better half, so naturally I expect the bigger half.

My husband has no sense of humour. When I hit him he couldn't see the funny side of a woman dancing to go such a thing.

My mother always encourages my husband; he always runs when he sees her.

Head Porter And Gardener Left Riches

TWO fortunes, each exceeding £9,000, left by a head porter and a head gardener, are revealed in their wills.

Mr. Hugh Callaghan, of Drumcondra, Dublin, formerly head porter at a Dublin hotel, left £9,154.

The head gardener, Mr. Joseph Durrin, of Ockham Park, Ripley, (Woking, Surrey), left £9,483.

NO MOURNING AT GUESTS' REMOVAL

Piled up with winter parties, detached villas in one of the best residential areas of Surrey—Surrey—to the annoyance of local fly-bombed villages waiting to be bombed—some 400 Italian have been suddenly moved from the town.

NORFOLK'S £16,000

The Norfolk Red Cross branch has sent £25,000 for the Duke of Gloucester's Red Cross Fund, £25,000 for Mrs. Churchill's Red Cross "Aid to Russia" Fund.

CONGRATULATIONS

"FIVE PEOPLE" has pleasure in offering congratulations today to the following readers on the occasion of their wedding anniversary:

DIAMOND—Mr. and Mrs. W. G. Gouding, Birmingham, Chombury.

SIR STAFFORD WARNS OUR TRADE CHIEFS

PRIVATE enterprise will be on its trial during the transition from war to peace. There is a great deal of enterprise and unless the major consideration is the country's interest and not that of the individual."

This plain warning was given to the nation by Sir Stafford Cripps, Minister of Aircraft, Production, in a speech to the Engineering Industries Association at Manchester, yesterday.

Dealing with the aircraft industry in peace time, Sir Stafford frankly told his hearers that, while even larger design and experimental staffs would be cut, production staffs would be cut heavily, whether a quarter of war-time strength, or less, only time could show.

In cancelling war contracts, the Government hoped to produce a flexible and reasonable scheme minimising expenditure on unwanted war material while avoiding unnecessary unemployment.

"It is impossible to lay down any code; we can only say that we shall be sensible and reasonable as the circumstances of each case permit," he added.

"We must make up our minds that the era during which the war was won and the world has completely passed away. We are now only one of the work-shops and we cannot therefore pursue the 'take it or leave it' attitude which was used to make a number of our industries."

"It will not be good enough to rely upon our reputation or our past traditional manufactures. We must put a premium upon enterprise."

"Secondly, the possibility of our rebuilding our reputation or our past traditional manufactures. We must put a premium upon enterprise."

"Small-Save" TOTAL

"Small-Save" for the last recorded week totalled £143,700. This was £143,700 more than the sale of Savings Certificates, £124,445, from Defence Bonds, and £5,254,728 from an increase in balances in the P.O. and Trustee Savings Bank.

ADVERTISERS' ANNOUNCEMENTS

Can you hear?

Suppose, for a moment, you found one of our wounded soldiers at your door—would you have the heart to give him the help you could, would you? Your help is needed.

The calls on the many auxiliary services of the Red Cross and St. John Conventions without pause, and may become even greater as the fighting develops.

PLEASE GIVE AN EXTRA PENNY A WEEK TO THE RED CROSS PENNY-A-WEEK FUND

Supporting the work of the Red Cross and St. John Conventions

Close Shave! The Standard Gillette blade is an expert in getting to grips where the enemy is thickest. It makes smooth tracks through the heaviest going. It is made of fine steel—worthily carrying on the peace-time tradition of the famous Blue Gillette.

Gillette "Standard" and "Standard Thin" Blades (plain steel) 2d each, including Purchase Tax. Fit All Gillette razors, old or new.

If you can't always get Horlicks, please remember there are many who have special need of it.

In emergency rationing used to soldiers, sailors, and airmen, Horlicks is an essential item. It is specially chosen for that purpose because it is exceptionally nourishing and sustaining. The makers of Horlicks are proud that it has helped to save innumerable lives.

Horlicks is also good for hospitals, valid war factories, and for the home. It is a "must" for all who are in the line of duty. It is a "must" for all who are in the line of duty. It is a "must" for all who are in the line of duty.

Horlicks

12 attempts 2/-	HERE
(y you) to abide by your to remit NEXT WEEK ed on this Coupon (a Pool Club or Syndicate)	THIS COUPON WILL BE VOID

ON THE BACK
OF YOUR
ENVELOPE

